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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/614,810	07/12/2000	Wilhelmus Hendrikus Alfonsus Bruls	PHN 17,546	7259

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PHILIPS ELECTRONICS NORTH AMERICAN CORP
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EXAMINER

DIEP, NHON THANH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2613

DATE MAILED: 04/10/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/614,810

Applicant(s)

BRULS ET AL.

Examiner

Nhon T Diep

Art Unit

2613

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 February 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 06 February 2003 is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The corrected or substitute drawings were received on 2/06/2003. These drawings are accepted.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-2, 4, 6, 13-14, 16-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hartung et al (cited by the applicant) as set forth in the previous Office Action (paper #7).

It is noted that newly amended limitation “so as to represent said symbols” of amended claim 20, is the same limitation as rejected claims 1, 13, 17 and 18.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hartung et al as set forth in the previous Office Action (paper #7).

6. Claims 5 and 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hartung et al, in view of the prior art figure 1D of the present application as set forth in the previous Office Action (paper #7).

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed on 11/14/97, regarding claims 1-4 and 7 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

With regard to the applicants' argument that such features include "modifying said selected coefficient so as to represent an auxiliary data symbol" and "transform coefficients obtained by transform coding the information signal, modified so as to represent said symbols" are not anticipated by Hartung et al (page 2, lines 7-13). The examiner respectfully disagrees. Figure 6 clearly shows that "after the inverse quantization we have one DCT coefficient of the current block (selected coefficient). We then add the corresponding DCT coefficient from the transformed watermark block (modifying said selected coefficient so as to represent an auxiliary data symbol), yielding a watermarked DCT coefficient. We then quantize and Huffman encode the watermark coefficient, together with its preceding run of zero coefficients (transform coefficients obtained by transform coding the information signal, modified so as to represent said symbols)" and therefore, it is submitted that Hartung et al anticipates the above limitations.

With regard to the applicants' argument that "Hartung only discloses:

"After the inverse quantization we have one DCT coefficient of the current block. We then add the corresponding DCT coefficient from the transformed

watermark block, yielding a watermark DCT coefficient". However, nowhere is it disclosed in Hartung et al that the watermarked DCT coefficient represents any kind of symbol." (page 2, lines 14-25). Again, the examiner respectfully disagrees. It is submitted that the process of embedding information into multimedia is called watermarking (Abstract) and that "yielding a watermarked DCT coefficient" represents embedded information into a the compressed bit stream. The examiner therefore, maintains all of his rejections as set forth in paper #7.

With regard to claim 1 (similarly claims 13, 17, 18 and 20): Claim 1, line 3 recites "characterized in that said signal samples are transformed coefficients ($c(l, j)$) obtained by transformed coding of the information signal". There is a contradiction between "transformed coefficients" and " $c(l, j)$ ". Page 4 of the specification discloses "The DCT yields a block 103 of 8X8 **transform coefficient $y(i, j)$** as shown in figure 1B." (lines 10-11) and later on lines 16-18, the specification also discloses "Figure 1C shows a block of **quantized coefficient $c(l, j)$** . The coefficient values shown in this figure are the quantized versions of the corresponding coefficients (DCT coefficients) shown in figure 1B". The examiner interprets **transform coefficients** as recited in claim 1 are DCT transform coefficients as is consistent with the specification.

Conclusion

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nhon T Diep whose telephone number is 703-305-4648. The examiner can normally be reached on m-f.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris S Kelley can be reached on 703 305-4856. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703 87209314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 305-2600.

ND
April 8, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nhon T Diep', written over a horizontal line.

**NHON DIEP
PRIMARY EXAMINER**